

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2391 - SB 2440

February 26, 2002

SUMMARY OF BILL: Adds a new definition of community under the workers' compensation law to define community as an area within a 15-mile radius of an injured employee's residence. This means that an employer is required to provide an injured employee with a panel of 3 providers within 15 miles of the employee's residence. The employer is already required to pay for mileage reimbursement if the employee is required to travel more than 15 miles for treatment.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

State Expenditures - Net Impact - Not Significant/Claims Award Fund

Local Govt. Expenditures - Net Impact - Not Significant

Estimate assumptions:

- There are 28 counties that meet the State's current access standard of 3/30 miles that will not meet the proposed standard of 3/15 miles.
- The State will realize savings in administrative costs/access fees for state employees in these counties.
- The State will not be able to direct the medical care of those employees to contracted providers resulting in a loss of medical cost savings.
- Any impact on local government's workers compensation cost is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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